

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

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R 161208Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 683

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NDJAMENA 3171

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, US, CD

SUBJ: MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER ON MILITARY MATERIEL;
FUTURE OF PEACE CORPS; ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE; AND POLITICAL
SITUATION

1. DIRECTOR PROTOCOL TELEPHONED AMBASSADOR ON LOCAL HOLIDAY
DECEMBER 12 TO WELCOME AMB BACK TO NDJAMENA AND TO REQUEST
THAT HE CALL ON MINISTER FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND COOPERATION
KAMOUGUE DECEMBER 13 AT NOON. AMB AND DCM MET WITH FORN MIN
AS REQUESTED, AND FOUND HIM PLEASANT, SELF-ASSURED AND
INTERESTED IN AMBASSADOR'S VIEWS OF OUTSTANDING US/CHADIAN
QUESTIONS AFTER LATTER'S CONSULTATIONS WASHINGTON.

2. IN RESPONSE TO KAMOUGUE QUESTION, AMB STATED HAD NOT HAD
OPPORTUNITY MEET GOC DELEGATION TO US LED BY MINISTER ROASNGAR
BUT UNDERSTOOD THAT DELEGATION HAD MET WITH ACTING ASSISTANT
SECRETARY MULCAHY AND THAT IT WAS TO MEET WITH SEVERAL US SUP-
PLIERS MILITARY MATERIEL AROUND COUNTRY. VISITS SHOULD HAVE
TAKEN ABOUT WEEK. AMBASSADOR REITERATED REASONS WHY USG
COULD NOT GRANT CREDITS MILITARY ITEMS OR TRAINING OR ARRANGE
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CONCESSIONARY TERMS. KAMOUGUE ALSO REITERATED GOC POSITION THAT SEC-

URITY OF COUNTRY MUST BE FIRST ITEM BUSINESS NEW REGIME; THAT FRENCH HAD LEFT NOTHING TO GOC (NO TIME SET FOR NEGOTIATIONS WITH FRENCH ON EQUIPMENT LEFT BY DEPARTING FRENCH FORCES); THAT GOC WOULD GLADLY BUY MATERIEL BUT NEED IS URGENT AND FINANCIAL HERITAGE TOMBALBAYE REGIME (DEBTS OF 50,000,000,000 CFA FRANCS) HAS LEFT NEW REGIME IN SERIOUS FINANCIAL BIND. KAMOUGUE NONETHELESS STATED THAT BY ONE MEANS OR ANOTHER NEW REGIME WOULD FIND MEANS OBTAIN REQUIRED MILITARY EQUIPMENT.

3. KAMOUGUE ANSWERED AMBASSADOR'S QUESTION AS TO HOW FORMER VIEWED US/CHADIAN RELATIONS BEYOND QUESTION MILITARY EQUIPMENT BY SAYING THAT WITH EXCEPTION QUESTION OF WITHDRAWING PCVS FROM FAYA, WHICH WAS INCONVENIENT FOR REGIME AS IMPOSSIBLE REPLACE TEACHERS, RELATIONS GENERALLY GOOD. HE INTIMATED THAT EMB COULD EXPECT REPLY ON QUESTION PCVS WITHDRAWAL IN NEAR FUTURE.

4. KAMOUGUE WAS ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT FUTURE US/GOC ECONOMIC RELATIONS. HE NOTED WITH GREAT SATISFACTION APPARENT COMMERCIAL ACCORD BETWEEN GOC AND GENERAL TELEPHONE AND ELECTRONICS FOR CONSTRUCTION INTERNAL MICROWAVE COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK AND HIS AND OTHER MINISTERS' MEETINGS PREVIOUS DAY WITH USAID DELEGATION HEADED BY DAVID SHEAR AND CDO. KAMOUGUE ALSO STATED AWARENESS OF FORTHCOMING CILSS MEETING AND ANTICIPATION THAT GOC WOULD PLAY LARGER ROLE THEREIN. HE NOTED THAT GOC NOT PLEASED WITH ITS PAST REPRESENTATION IN CILSS AND INTENDED TO HAVE CSM MEMBER AND MINISTER ECONOMY AND FINANCE GENERAL DJOGO HEAD GOC DELEGATION TO NEXT MEETING. AMBASSADOR REVIEWED FOR KAMOUGUE WORK OF DAP TEAM RECENTLY IN NDJAMENA, STRESSING TEAM HAD WORKED CLOSELY WITH CHADIAN OFFICIALS TO DELINEATE SECTORS IN WHICH AID COULD COLLABORATE WITH CHAD ON FUTURE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF COUNTRY. FORNMIN WAS AWARE OF AND APPRECIATED ACTIVITIES OF DAP TEAM.

5. KAMOUGUE DESCRIBED INTERNAL GOC SITUATION AS "STABILIZING"; REMARKED IN ANSWER TO AMBASSADOR'S QUESTION THAT CLAUSTRE AFFAIR (FRENCH WOMAN HOSTAGE HELD BY REBELS) HAD ALL BUT DISAPPEARED FROM FRENCH AND WORLD PRESS, IMPLYING PERHAPS THAT SEPTEMBER WIDESPREAD MEDIA REPORTING WAS STIMULATED BY FORCES ANTAGONISTIC TO GOC. HE ALLUDED TO IMPOSSIBILITY DEALING WITH HISSAN HABRE WHO HAD RECEIVED FULL RANSOM HE DEMANDED BUT STILL HAD NOT CONFIDENTIAL

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RELEASED MME. CLAUSTRE. IN CONCLUSION FORNMIN NOTED THAT HE WOULD BE PLEASED ARRANGE MEETING WITH PRESIDENT MALLOUM WHENEVER AMBASSADOR THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE USEFUL.

6. COMMENT: EMB CONSIDERS THAT GOC IN PROCESS CAREFULLY WEIGHING ITS RELATIONS WITH US AND PROBABLY WITH OTHER NATIONS, EAST AND WEST, PREPARATORY TO OPTING FOR POLICIES WHICH MOST LIKELY OBTAIN FOR IT MILITARY EQUIPMENT REQUIRED. (SOVIET

AMBASSADOR WAS DRIVING AWAY FROM MINISTRY AS AMBASSADOR AND
DCM ARRIVED.) THIS POLICY REVIEW SEEMS WELL ADVANCED, AND
PRINCIPAL PURPOSE KAMOUQUE REQUEST FOR MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR
APPARENTLY TO DETERMINE WHAT NEW DEVELOPMENTS IF ANY SHOULD BE
CONSIDERED IN ASSESSMENT. EMB ANTICIPATED THAT DECISIONS WILL
BEGIN TO BE MADE WITH RETURN TO CHAD OF ROASNGAR DELEGATION.
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